AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-34 (cancelled).

35 (currently amended).   A method of treating a patient ~~in order to treat a neurodegenerative disorder~~ for memory loss associated with aging comprising administering to that patient a therapeutically effective amount of at least one of D-β-hydroxybutyric acid, acetoacetate, or a metabolic precursor or physiologically acceptable salt of D-β-hydroxybutyric acid or acetoacetate, such as to elevate the patient's blood levels of ketone bodies, defined as the sum total of D-β-hydroxybutyric acid and acetoacetate, to a therapeutic level effective to treat the disorder, wherein the patient's blood level is elevated to from 0.3mM to 20mM and wherein the ~~disorder is memory loss associated with aging~~ metabolic precursor is not a hydroxybutyryl carnitine.

36 (currently amended).   A method as claimed in Claim 35 wherein the metabolic precursor is selected from the group consisting of ~~free fatty acids, the metabolism of which is through β-oxidation, and medium chain length triglycerides~~:

(i) free fatty acids, the metabolism of which is through β-oxidation ~~and~~.
(ii) medium chain length triglycerides,
(iii) oligomers of D-β-hydroxybutyric acid,
(iv) esters of D-β-hydroxybutyric acid or its oligomers with monohydric, dihydric or

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trihydric alcohols or with acetoacetate,

(v) esters of acetoacetate with monohydric, dihydric or trihydric alcohols,

wherein the monohydric, dihydric or trihydric alcohols in (iv) and (v) are selected from the group C1-C4 alkyl alcohols, (R)-1,3-butandiol and glycerol,

or a physiologically acceptable salt of any of these.

37 (new).   A method as claimed in Claim 35 wherein the metabolic precursor is a medium chain length triglyceride.

38 (new).   A method as claimed in Claim 35 wherein the memory loss associated with ageing is caused by Alzheimer's disease or an inability to metabolise glucose.

39 (new):   A method as claimed in Claim 36 wherein the memory loss associated with ageing is caused by Alzheimer's disease or an inability to metabolise glucose.